Cairo, GA – Congressman Sanford D. Bishop, Jr. (GA-2) today celebrated the official issuance of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers permit for Tired Creek in Grady County.

Congressman Bishop marked the occasion as a great milestone, having personally been involved with the Tired Creek project for many years.

Congressman Bishop said:

"There is an old proverb that says, "Do not cast your nets in rivers where there are no fish." And I know there were times when it seemed that no permit would be issued, and that seeking the permit was like casting our nets in a river without fish. Today, we have proved this wrong – we caught a big fish! And as a result, we'll soon see a 900-acre residential lake full of fish!

This is a lesson in persistence – we are here today to celebrate the hard work and persistence of many people. Everyone here has contributed something to this project, and I am honored to be among you.

I look forward to hearing from you, as you share your stories of teaching your children and grandchildren to fish in Tired Creek. And I hope they, too, will teach their children and grandchildren to fish in Tired Creek. I hope this will become a place with many happy memories for everyone in Grady County.

And when you teach your children to fish, remember today, remember our persistence and our belief in the Tired Creek project. And teach your children that you can cast your nets where there are seemingly no fish, because if you're persistent, you will reel in a catch."

In April, Congressman Bishop met at Tired Creek with officials from Grady County, the Environmental Protection Agency, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Florida Fish and Wildlife, Georgia Environmental Protection Division, and other constituents to discuss the project in an effort to revive stalled negotiations regarding the issuance of the permit.

Today's celebration centered around the formal presentation of the permit, and included Congressman Bishop, Grady County Commissioners, and other local officials.

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